February 2014

Dear Family, Friends, White Rose community + supporters:

We (John + Regina + our little one on the way!) send blessings of peace from Chicago! As the days begin to lengthen and the winter weather persists, we wait in joyful hope for the coming of new life, including, God willing, the miracle of our first child this summer. The other big news is our move to the northeast rural corner of Missouri (12 miles from Kirksville) at the end of March, to start a new White Rose Catholic Worker Farm. The move comes in response to the invitation of our compañeros at the Possibility Alliance (PA) to partner with them as a neighboring project. The folks at the PA run a joyful community farm dedicated to 'integral nonviolence', including electricity and petroleum-free living and gift economy. We are inspired, encouraged and challenged by this budding relationship and opportunity to put deeper roots towards the ever-stronger call we feel to live in a land + craft-based society built on love.

Our main reason for writing you today is that we really need your help. In order to create this new project, we need to raise **$73,000** this year, to buy the land, rustic housing and cover startup operating costs:

2014 Goal:
$73,000

30 acre land - pasture + forest
$45,000

Rustic 12'x20' mobile cabin, built by a friend, with improvements, wood-burning stove
$7,000

Existing 30'x30' workshop
$13,000

Expenses for the year: Hospitality, programe, health, midwife, food, travel, phone
$8,000

Would you consider helping? By making a donation, you support the continued work + values of the White Rose. Our ministries have included:

- **PRAYER + FAITH:** leading community prayer and faith sharing, spiritual retreats, house liturgies, annual Advent + Lenten Reflections, Social Justice Stations of the Cross, spiritual guidance + companionship.
- **HOSPITALITY:** welcoming people in need to stay at our home and provide friendship, meals, clothes and presence. Running a →

hospitality network of friends who open their homes to the homeless.

• CARE FOR CREATION + SIMPLICITY: converting a 10 acre farm from conventional corn/soy to a diverse organic farm, including vegetables, fruits, nuts and animals. Converting 2 Chicago yards into organic food production. Organizing dozens of free markets (like a free garage sale!) in Chicago. Making handmade crafts out of recycled material.

• EDUCATION: hosting hundreds of visitors annually, including schools, church groups and intentional communities. Leading workshops, giving talks at schools and churches, and publishing a quarterly newsletter for 600 readers, and organizing roundtable discussions.

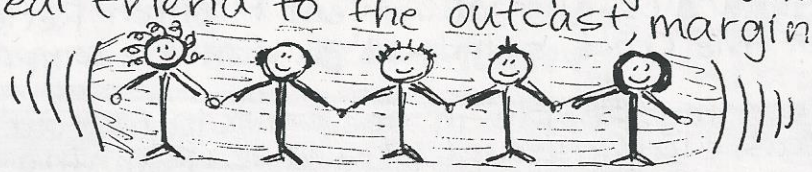
• NONVIOLENT RESISTANCE + PEACEMAKING: leading dozens of nonviolence trainings throughout the country. Participating in peace delegations (to Afghanistan, Bermuda to meet former Guantánamo prisoners, Tennessee for depleted uranium contamination) and nonviolent public actions (to end war, stop environmental destruction, support housing access for homeless). Confronting the issue of torture through supporting torture survivors with overnight hospitality and food from our farm AND organizing public actions, campaigns and fasts to end U.S.-sponsored torture and close Guantánamo Bay Prison in Cuba.

A story...

Recently, all our rooms were full at the city house and we got a call from two former guests in need of hospitality whose high-rise apartment building was being foreclosed. Struggling to find similar low-cost housing, weeks went on as the couple jumped from place to place. Suddenly, our hospitality room opened up and we called them to see how things were going. They had run out of money and places to stay, and had nowhere to go. They were now sleeping in a park, exposed to the elements. When we told them they could stay with us, their response was exhuberant and full of relief: "Oh, that's great news," she said. "Last night it rained on us and we were so cold, all of our things are wet. You just have to hold on and have faith, and God will provide!" After being with us for a few months, he said, "you know, you been a friend to us, a real FRIEND." Later he dropped a $20 bill on our desk and said, "this is for you all. I don't have much, but if I got it, I gotta give it." Three hours later, we passed that money to two guests just coming out of prison, with not a penny to their name.

A request...

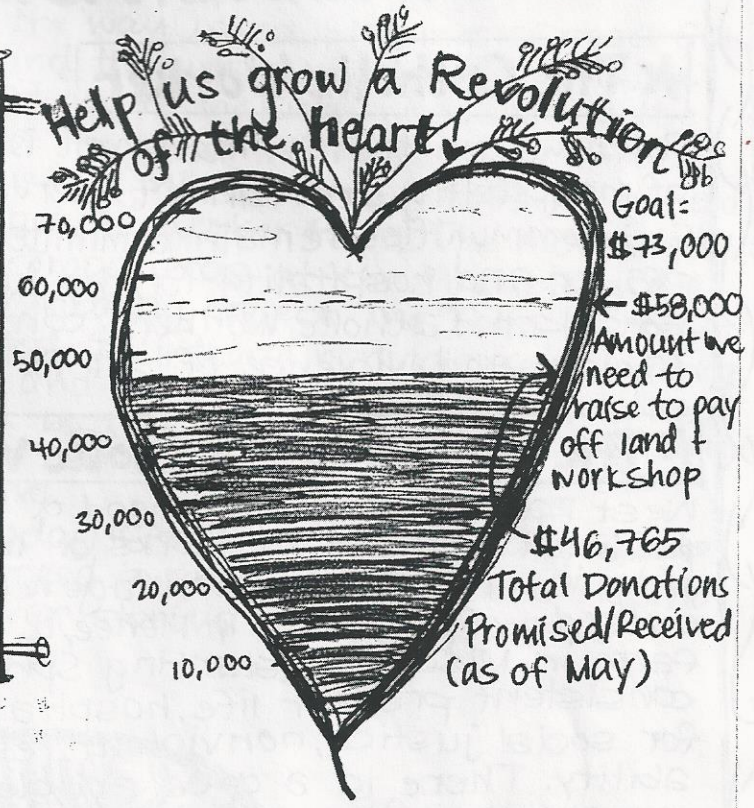
We hope that if you "got it" that you will consider sharing it with us, as we start this new project and continue our work to be a real friend to the outcast, marginal and forgotten.



Donations of check, cash or money order can be made out to "White Rose Catholic Worker" with "Missouri land" in the memo and sent to:

(Before June 1)
White Rose Catholic Worker
Attn: John + Regina Bambrick-Rust
28408 Frontier Ln.
La Plata, MO 63549

(After June 1)
White Rose Catholic Worker
31167 Ferrier Ln.
La Plata, MO 63549

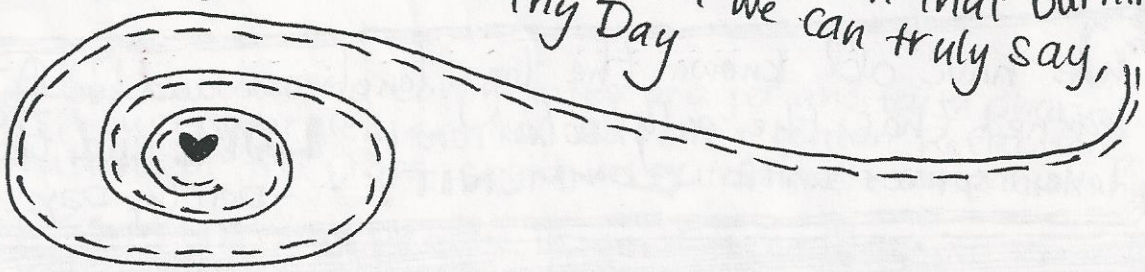


We thank you for your prayers, support and generosity! If you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions for our fundraising effort, give us a call at 660-332-4094 (before June 1) or 660-332-4026 (after June 1).

Blessings of Peace,

John + Regina + baby Bambrick-Rust + Michael Henes

The greatest challenge of the day is: how to bring about a revolution of the heart, a revolution which has to start with each one of us? When we begin to take the lowest place, to wash the feet of others, to love our brothers and sisters with that burning love, that passion, which led to the cross, then we can truly say, "Now I have truly begun." - Dorothy Day



A little more about us...

★ The Catholic Worker: Founded in 1933 by Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin, the CW movement is a decentralized network of houses of hospitality and farms to serve those in need. Today over 200 CW communities remain committed to nonviolence, voluntary poverty, prayer and hospitality for the homeless, exiled, hungry and forsaken. Catholic Workers continue to protest injustice, war, racism and violence of all forms.

★ The White Rose Catholic Worker: Founded in 2009, in the West Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago, the WRCW follows in the CW tradition of doing the works of mercy by running a house of hospitality in Chicago (Little Village neighborhood), a suburban-rural farm outside of Chicago in Monee, IL (since Spring 2011), and new rural farm in Missouri (starting Spring 2014!). We are committed to a consistent prayer life, hospitality to those in need, education for social justice, nonviolent resistance and ecological sustainability. There is a good article online from 2011 about the community in the Marquette Alumni Magazine, if you want to look it up.

Our partners in Missouri...

★ The Possibility Alliance: Founded in 2007, an electricity + petroleum-free farm + sanctuary that is dedicated to "the upliftment of all beings." The PA welcomes over 1500 visitors a year for service, workshops, + formation opportunities. The project stems from the interfaith tradition of the L'Arche Movement of Lanzo del Vasto in France, inspired by Gandhi's striving for integral nonviolence in India.

★ Peace + Permaculture University: Inaugerated in 2012, this companion project of the PA will surely foment our educational programs. The PPU is an outdoor classroom where hundreds of students a year convene to learn the 'hard' and 'soft skills' of living a land + craft-based society, spirituality and nonviolence formation.

"We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is **LOVE** and that love comes with **COMMUNITY**." – Dorothy Day